

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 5 with the following:

Another alternate embodiment operates as follows: The speculative read command generated by the bridge pre-loads registers in the ATA interface of the storage device; however, the speculative command is not executed until the next read command is received from the host and the address in the speculative command is found to be the same as the address in the speculative command. The ATA interface in a storage device includes an address register and a length register. With this alternate embodiment, the speculative command, merely pre-loads the address and length registers in the ATA interface of the storage device. The storage device is not instructed to actually execute the speculative read command and seek the data pre-loaded in the registers until the next read command is received from the host and it is determined that the address in the speculative read command and the address in the next read command from the host are identical. Naturally, if the addresses are not identical, the ~~speculate~~ speculative read command is not executed and instead the address and the length registers are loaded with the information in the read command from the host.